

A map of the Lake Oroville area in California. The map shows Lake Oroville in the center, with various roads and landmarks labeled. Labels include '191', '70', '162', 'Magna', 'Chico', 'Oroville', 'Thermalito Forebay', 'Thermalito Afterbay', 'Oroville Dam', 'Oroville Dam Hwy', 'Adelphi Fork Feather River', 'Porte Rd', and 'Oroville-Ba'.

Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100) NEPA/CEQA Scoping Meeting

California Department of Water
Resources

October 30, 2001
Sacramento, CA



Meeting Agenda – October 30

- Kiosks/Tables by Topic 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
 - Cultural Resources
 - Engineering and Operations
 - Environmental
 - Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics
 - Recreation and Socioeconomics
 - Relicensing Process

- Welcome / DWR Presentation 2:00 pm – 2:20 pm

- FERC Speaker 2:20 pm – 2:30 pm

- Public Comment Period 2:30 pm – 3:55 pm

- Meeting Wrap-up 3:55 pm - 4:00 pm



Meeting and Scoping Objectives

- Solicit all available information from participants.
- Encourage statements from experts and the public on issues that should be analyzed.



Scoping Objectives

- Summarize environmental issues.
- Determine the resource issues to be addressed.
- Identify those issues that require detailed analysis.



What Is Relicensing?



What Is Relicensing?

- Required for non-federally owned hydro projects.
- Licensed by The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).
- Provided for 30- to 50-year term.
- License set for project operations, resource protection.
- Both power and non-power benefits (fish, cultural resources, environment, recreation) are considered.
- Other federal and state agencies also set mandatory conditions.



What Is Relicensing?

- Assess effects of ongoing project operations on resources (environment, recreation, cultural, water supply, other).
- Develop appropriate protection, mitigation and enhancement measures to address these project impacts.



Oroville Facilities Relicensing (Project No. 2100)

Project Information

- The Oroville Facilities were developed as part of the California State Water Project
- The project boundary encompasses 41,100 acres.
- The project includes Oroville Dam and Reservoir and three power plants with a total licensed capacity of 762 MW:
 - Edward Hyatt Pumping-Generating Plant (645 MW)
 - Thermalito Diversion Dam Power Plant (3 MW)
 - Thermalito Pumping-Generating Plant (114 MW)
- Oroville also provides flood protection, recreation, enhances fish and wildlife, and improves water quality.



How is the Project Being Relicensed?

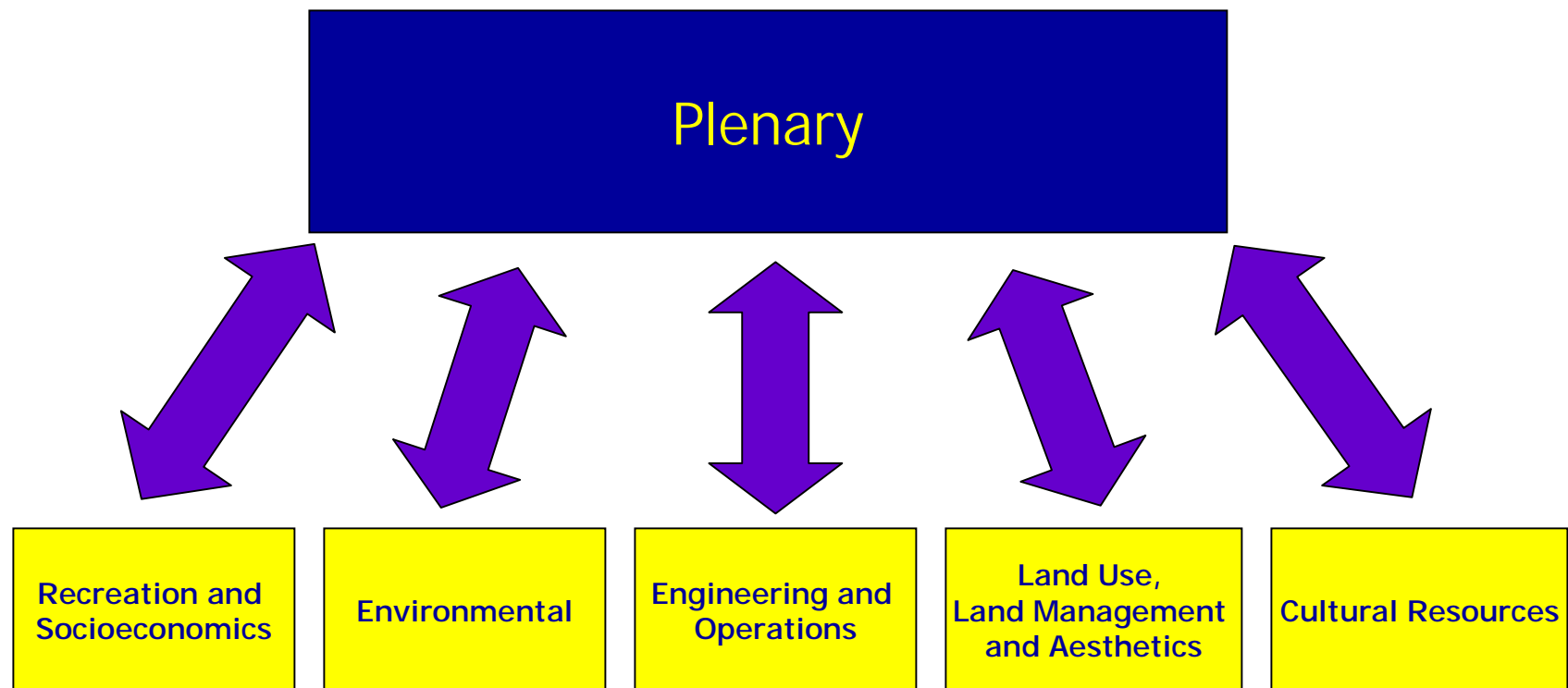


DWR Selected FERC's Alternative Licensing Process

- Applicant Prepared Environmental Assessment ("APEA")
- Collaborative relicensing process to engage diverse stakeholders to:
 - Identify issues
 - Develop studies
 - Develop proposed protection, mitigation and enhancement recommendations/license conditions
- Scoping and environmental analysis conducted upfront with stakeholders engaged
- Settlement agreement by stakeholders, along with DWR license application



Oroville Facilities Relicensing Process



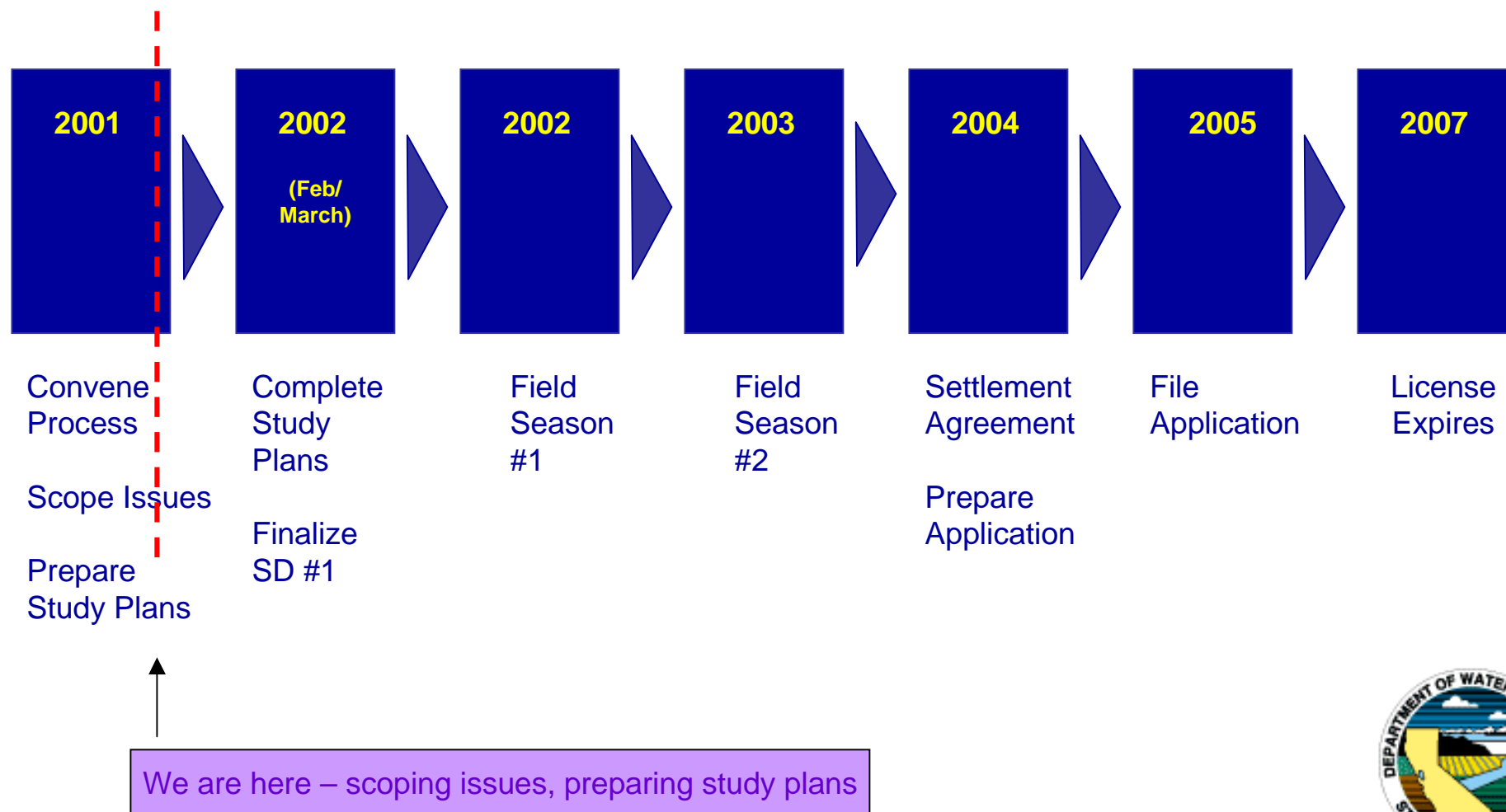
Stakeholders Actively Engaged in the Collaborative Process

- American Rivers
- American Whitewater
- Anglers Choice
- Berry Creek Improvement Club/Citizens Committee
- Berry Creek Rancheria
- Bureau of Land Management
- Butte County
- Butte Sailing Club
- CA Department of Fish and Game
- CA Department of Parks and Recreation
- California Waterfowl Association
- Cherokee Tribe
- Chico Area Flyfishers
- Chico Bass Club
- Chico Paddleheads
- City of Oroville
- Department of Boating and Waterways
- Department of Parks and Recreation
- Enterprise Rancheria
- Equestrian Trail Riders/Hiker
- Feather Falls Casino
- Feather River Nature Center
- Feather River Recreation and Parks District
- First Salmon Ceremony Native American Coalition/CA Autochthon Peoples Fdn.
- Kern County Water Agency
- Lake Oroville Fish Enhancement Committee/CA4WDC
- Lime Saddle Marina
- Mechoopda Tribe
- Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- Mooretown Rancheria
- National Marine Fisheries Service
- National Park Service
- ORAC/Citizens for the Fair and Equitable Recreation Use of Lake Oroville
- Oroville Chamber of Commerce
- Oroville Water Ski Club
- Santa Clara Valley Water District
- State Office of Historic Preservation
- State Water Contractors
- State Water Resources Control Board
- Trout Unlimited
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S.D.A. Forest Service



Oroville Facilities Relicensing (Project No 2100)

Overall Schedule: 2001 to 2007



Process for Scoping Document #1

- Drafted Scoping Document 1, with stakeholder input
- Distributed Scoping Document 1: September 27, 2001
- Public involvement and comments
 - Public comment period: 9/27, 2001 – 11/26, 2001
 - Site visit: October 29, 2001
 - Scoping meetings: October 29, 2001 and October 30, 2001
- Final Scoping Document #1: Mar/Apr, 2002



What are the Issues?



Summary of Some Resource Issues from the Draft Scoping Document Recreation and Socioeconomics

- Adequacy of existing project recreation facilities.
- Appropriate project-related recreation funding, development, and management structure.
- Assess economic impacts of operating the Oroville facilities on local governments, residents, agriculture, businesses and other interests in Butte County
- Project-related opportunities and access to accommodate current use and future demand.



Summary of Some Resource Issues from the Draft Scoping Document

Environmental

- Geology:

- Project effects on channel capacity and pot. need for more storage/flood protection
- Project effects on sediment accumulation upstream

- Water quantity/quality

- Effect of operations and facilities on water quality of the Feather River, tributaries, downstream waters
- Effects of facilities on water temperatures

- Terrestrial

- Effect of operations on federal and state listed endangered species
- Project effects on biodiversity and ecosystem health and stability



- Fisheries

- Effect of operations and facilities on the behavior, reproduction, survival, habitat of warm- and cold-water fish
- Effects of cumulative impacts on regional fisheries, fish passage



Summary of Some Resource Issues from the Draft Scoping Document Engineering and Operations

- Evaluate potential for adding additional generation within existing infrastructure.
- Effect of future water demands on project operations including power generation, lake levels, flows.
- Evaluate environmental and economic aspects of different flow regimes.
- Impact of flood releases on Lake Oroville dam and downstream facilities.



Summary of Some Resource Issues from the Draft Scoping Document

Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics

- Existing and future fuel loads, fuel management practices, coordination of fuel management activities.
- Uses of project lands for public use, access, open space, recreational issues.
- Appropriate landscaping, restoration, preservation programs for aesthetic enhancement of project lands.
- Effects of construction debris, garbage on overall appearance.



Summary of Some Resource Issues from the Draft Scoping Document -Cultural Resources

- Protect Cultural Resources.
- Determine the effects of existing and future project facilities and operations on cultural resources within the Area of Potential Effects.
- Evaluate whether recreation and other uses tied to project lands conflicts with the protection of cultural resources.



Guidelines for Submitting Oral Comments

- Approach the microphone when called; 1st in, 1st up.
- Provide name and affiliation (if any).
- Court reporter is here to record your comments; please speak loudly and clearly.
- Please limit verbal comments to 4 minutes
- Written comments will be accepted and are encouraged tonight or by mail
- Focus on Oroville Facilities relicensing
 - Identify relevant information, new issues, level of analysis



How to Contact Us

- By Phone: 1-866-820-8198
- By Email: orovillep2100@water.ca.gov
- Online: <http://OrovilleRelicensing.water.ca.gov>

